



Amherst Medical Reserve Corps
AMHERST HEALTH DEPARTMENT
70 BOLTWOOD WALK, AMHERST, MA 01002
(413) 256-4077 fax (413) 256-4053



May 2005 Amherst MRC Updates

- **MRC Badge Update**

In order to receive your ID Badge, which may be considered a “Credential” at a local emergency scene, all application materials and licensure checks must be complete. Please check with me to see if your file is missing any pieces. We will be deciding upon a three tiered color-coded ID system and plan to make this consistent with other Massachusetts MRCs.

- **Training Schedule Updates (see reverse side)**

MRC meeting locations have now been scheduled for the rest of the year. In June I plan to spend our meeting time listening to your ideas about future directions, strategies for recruitment and retention of volunteers, leadership models, and plans for sustaining the MRC beyond our official grant. To supplement this conversation I will talk about some take-home messages and ideas from the National MRC Conference and other MRCs in Massachusetts. I will be sending you the website for all presentations from the National Conference as soon as those are all posted.

- **Disaster Behavioral Health Trainings at CCSS**

Many of you seemed quite interested in the debriefing concepts and behavioral health aspects of emergencies that we discussed at the March panel. Diana Bella’s program Community Crisis Support Services, is about to begin a round of their debriefing training. (Diana was one of our panelists) The information is below. One of our MRC Members (Keith) is also a CCSS volunteer and I’m sure he’d be happy to answer any questions about the training or the team. Let me know if you would to be in touch with him.

- **Congratulations**

Special congratulations to our own Julie Federman, RN, Amherst’s Public Health Nurse, and Trish Abbott, RN, who is the Public Health Nurse for both Northampton and Easthampton and a co-coordinator of Easthampton’s MRC. They were awarded a certificate “...for achievement in Adult Immunization” at the 10th Annual Massachusetts Adult Immunization Conference on April 26, 2005 for their work planning and coordinating the clinic sites for the emergency dispensing site drill (Amherst & Northampton) on November 13, 2004.

- **Public Access Defib Project**

If you have ideas about folks or organizations in the community to whom a donation request letter could be sent or are willing to help with this community project, please let Kate know ASAP.

NEXT MRC MEETING & TRAINING:

6:30pm June 13 Bangs Center – Lower Internal Meeting Room

Topic: Future Directions for Amherst MRC

Kate Kelly katek@amhersma.gov Josh Shanley shanleyj@amherstma.gov Julie Federman federmanj@amherstma.gov

